

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-02 CG-00 OFA-01

DLOS-05 CPR-01 /092 W

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R 030450Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3717

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS CAIRO 4439

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT EG EAID

SUBJECT: SUEZ CANAL OPENING CEREMONIES

REF CAIRO 4377

1. SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY DIRECTOR MASHHOUR HAS ASKED THAT
USG DESIGNATE TWO INDIVIDUALS TO REPRESENT US COMMERCIAL
SHIPPING COMPANIES AT SUEZ CANAL REOPENING CEREMONIES ON
JUNE 5. ACCORDING TO MASHHOUR TOTAL OF ONLY ABOUT 500
EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, FOREIGN AMBASSADORS,
REPRESENTATIVES OF NAVIES PARTICIPATING IN CANAL CLEARANCE
AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SHIP OWNERS OF MAJOR MARITIME NATIONS
WOULD BE INVITED.

2. RESTRICTED NATURE OF INVITATION PRIMARILY DUE TO LOGISTICAL
PROBLEMS INVOLVING ACCOMMODATIONS AT PORT SAID AND ISMAILIA.
INVITED GUESTS WOULD SPEND THE NIGHT JUNE 4 ON BOARD PASSENGER
SHIP ANCHORED PORT SAID. MORNING OF JUNE 5 THEY WOULD ATTEND
OPENING CEREMONY AND RE-EMBARK ON PASSENGER SHIPS WHICH
WOULD PROCEED WITH PRESIDENT SADAT TO ISMAILIA FOR ADDITIONAL
CEREMONIES. TRAVEL FROM PORT SAID TO ISMAILIA WILL REQUIRE
ABOUT SIX HOURS. ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PROVIDED ON BOARD
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SHIP THE EVENING OF JUNE 5. GUESTS WOULD BE TRANSPORTED TO

CAIRO ON JUNE 6 WHERE SIGHTSEEING PROGRAM PROBABLY WOULD BE
ARRANGED.

3. MASHHOUR INDICATED INVITED GUESTS WOULD RECEIVE COMMEMORATIVE
MEDAL MARKING OCCASIONS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. EMBASSY NOT AWARE OF MODALITIES IN
DESIGNATING REPRESENTATIVES US SHIPOWNERS TO ATTEND THIS
CEREMONY. USG WILL BE OFFICIALLY REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADOR
AND TWO FLAG RANK NAVAL OFFICERSM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE REQUEST
SELECTION OF TWO HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES OF SHIPOWNERS TO
ATTEND THIS FUNCTION. BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO THROUGH FOREIGN
OFFICE HAS CONTACTED INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF SHIPPING TO
COORDINATE SELECTION OF INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING OWNERS WHICH
PRESUMABLY COULD OR SHOULD INCLUDE AMERICAN SHIPOWNERS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES, SUEZ CANAL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO04439
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750156-0150
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750582/aaaacxda.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CAIRO 4377
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUEZ CANAL OPENING CEREMONIES
TAGS: EWWT, EAID, EG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006